

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in *Ireland*,
for the Year 1872-73.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN POYNTZ, EARL SPENCER, &c.,
LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR
OF IRELAND, &c. &c. &c.

WE, "the Commissioners of Education in Ireland," constituted and appointed pursuant to the provisions of an Act of Parliament passed in the 53rd year of the reign of His late Majesty George the Third, and by a subsequent Act of Parliament passed in the third year of the reign of His late Majesty George the Fourth, respectfully submit to your Excellency a general Report of the Proceedings of the Board since their last Report.

During the year which has elapsed since our last Report to your Excellency, but few circumstances have arisen to interfere with the ordinary and regular business of the Commissioners, or to require special notice to your Excellency. The powers and authority conferred upon us are so very limited in extent that our duties necessarily are to a great degree of a very routine character, and do not supply materials for much variety in our Annual Reports.

The management (with the assistance of our respective local Land Agents) of the Estates of public and private foundation which constitute the Endowments of the Schools, and which are under our control, calls for much of our time and attention; and we are happy to be able to report to your Excellency that, generally speaking, they are in a thriving and satisfactory condition, and that the Tenantry located upon them are peaceable and well-conducted.

And it is satisfactory to us to be in a position to state to your Excellency that the periodical Returns furnished to us by the Teachers in the Primary Schools established on some of them by us, show that our tenants largely avail themselves of the benefits of these institutions.

The various and extensive Schoolhouses and premises connected with public and private Endowments have been kept in a proper state of repair by such expenditure on them as became necessary for that purpose. And we beg further to state that in all cases of any important additions or improvements to these premises, the Architect furnishes to us his Report thereon, before we come to any decision upon the subject.

The erection of additional Class-rooms, and other extensive works heretofore referred to, and ordered by us to be carried out at Armagh Royal School, are reported by the Architect to be now nearly completed to his satisfaction. And we have full expectation that this establishment will then rank in extent and accommodation with those at Enniskillen and Dungannon. The Returns recently received by us from this School prove that under the management of the present Master it is in public estimation fast emerging from the state into which it had latterly subsided.

As regards the attendance of the different classes of Pupils at the other Schools of Royal and private foundation, we have to state that the most recent Returns made to us do not exhibit any material variations within the last year.

In reference to the Banagher Royal School Endowment, we beg to state that certain rumours having reached us which, if true, must in our opinion prove prejudicial to the interests and well-being of the School, we appointed and duly authorised Visitors to hold, at Banagher, a public investigation into the truth or falsehood of these reports. The Visitors, acting under the instructions of our Solicitor, took all the necessary preliminary steps for the investigation, and published in Banagher a notice stating the day on which the visitation would take place; but, previously to that day, the Master forwarded the resignation of his office to your Excellency, and all proceedings came to an end in this matter.

In regard to the course of instruction afforded in the Endowed Schools generally, but more particularly in the Royal Schools, we beg to report that a reference to the Returns regularly supplied to us shows that a very general and extended course of instruction in Ancient and Modern Languages; in Science; in History, Ancient and Modern; in Geography; Arithmetic in all its branches; and in the English Language and Literature; that is to say, a course of education qualifying students for any situation in life which they may be hereafter called upon to fill is provided in these institutions, under highly-qualified teachers; and we beg further to state that we have under consideration plans which we hope may bring them more within the reach of daily pupils of the less wealthy of the middle classes.

In reference to the Exhibitions in Trinity College, Dublin, called Royal Scholarships, founded by us in conformity with the directions of the Law Officers of the Crown, we beg briefly to state that they are not open to Fellow Commissioners, that they can be obtained solely by Pensioners and Scholars, as the result of a very strict competitive examination; that, in order to hold them, the Exhibitioner must, in each year of his undergraduate course, obtain a certain number of honours fixed by us, or forfeiture takes place; that they can be obtained without any religious examination or test; and that the course of the general examination which must be passed is constantly varied by us, and has latterly been very much extended in the direction of Science, Modern Languages, and general Literature, Classics being, however, not neglected.

The following is a list of Royal Scholars now enjoying these highly-prized distinctions:

On the Armagh Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.	
H. O. Moore -	25 per annum.		R. Fullerton -	30 per annum.
J. W. King -	50	"		

On

On the Cavan Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
J. J. Woodroffe	— 30 per annum.	G. H. Manning	— 10 per annum.

On the Dungannon Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
W. B. Smyth	— 25 per annum.	R. Elliott	— 25 per annum.
T. Hamilton	— 50 "	A. Samuels	— 30 "
J. F. Williamson	— 50 "	E. W. Hobson	— 40 "
R. Clarke	— 40 "	W. Beatty	— 30 "
H. D. Bell	— 40 "	W. Irwin	— 30 "

On the Enniskillen Royal School Foundation.

	£.		£.
T. E. Hackett	— 40 per annum.	R. Cramsie	— 30 per annum.
J. D. Bouchier	— 40 "	L. C. Parson	— 30 "
G. A. Leech	— 50 "	R. McDowell	— 30 "
E. P. Hopkins	— 30 "	W. T. Lendrum	— 30 "
R. Galbraith	— 50 "	J. McDowell	— 30 "

Attached to this Report will be found a copy of the Rules and Regulations most recently published by us on the subject of the Royal Scholarships.

Amongst the Schools of private foundation, that at Midleton, in the County of Cork, is the most largely attended; and the Reports presented to us by the Visitors and Governors, after their visitations and examinations held there, testify to the high qualification and industry of the Master, the good instruction afforded to the pupils, and to the general good management of the entire establishment.

All which we beg most respectfully to submit to your Excellency as our Annual Report for 1872-73.

(signed)	JAMES WHITESIDE, Chief Justice.	(L. S.)
	H. LLOYD, Prorector, Trinity College, Dublin.	(L. S.)
	SAMUEL MEATH.	(L. S.)
	WILLIAM BROOKE.	(L. S.)
	WILLIAM B. KIRKPATRICK, M.B.	(L. S.)
	J. D. FITZGERALD.	(L. S.)
	LOWRY EDMONDS BERKELEY.	(L. S.)

27 June 1873.

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL.D., M.R.I.A., &c.,
Secretary.

ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

REGULATIONS of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland," for 1873.

"THE Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded 30 Exhibitions, called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan, viz., five scholarships of 30*l.* per annum each for Armagh School; and five of 30*l.* per annum, and five of 20*l.* per annum for each of the Schools of Dungannon and Enniskillen; and five of 25*l.* per annum for Cavan School.

These Scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been three years in all, previously to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal Schools. It is not, however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of these schools to another; but the Scholarships founded for the respective Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such Scholarships have been founded.

The Scholarships are tenable for five years, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The Provost and Senior Fellows appoint Examiners in each year, to examine, on the first convenient day after the second entrance, in the month of October, such students as have entered from the said four Royal Schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these Scholarships.

In 1873 the examinations will be in the following subjects:—

I.—Greek and Latin Classics (200 marks).

- Two Greek and two Latin authors included in the ordinary entrance course of Trinity College, together with one Greek and one Latin author not so included, to be examined *vis à vis*. The books appointed for the year 1873 are:
Homer's "Iliad," Books V., VI., and VII.; Virgil's "Æneid," Books I., II., VI., VII.; Ennius, "Bacchus"; edited by Tyrrell; Tacitus, "Annals," Books I., II.; Pliny, "Apologia Socratis"; Terence, "Phœniss."
- Passages from Greek and Latin authors, not named beforehand, for translation in writing.
- Greek and Latin Prose Composition.
- Paper of questions in Ancient History. [Books recommended—Dr. Smith's "Grecian History"; Liddell's smaller "Roman History."]

II.—English Language (100 marks).

- Language and Literature.
[Books recommended—Trench, "English, Past and Present." Abbott and Seeley, "English Lessons for English People." "Student's Manual of English Literature." Smith's "Specimens of English Literature."]

Candidates will be expected to be well acquainted with the following works, *vis*—Milton's "Paradise Lost," Books III. and IV.; Milton's "Comus"; Shakespeare, "Hamlet" and "As You Like it."

- English Composition.
- History of England.—[Book recommended—Student's Hume.]

III.—Modern Languages (50 marks).

French or German.

IV.—Science (100 marks).

- Arithmetic.
- Algebra, to the end of Quadratic Equations.
- Euclid, Books I., II., III., and VI.
- Plane Trigonometry, including the solution of plane Triangles.
- Geography, Descriptive and Physical.

Note.—The course of examination for Royal Scholarships will be varied, from time to time, by the Commissioners.

Candidates

OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND :—1872-73.

Candidates may present themselves for examination in any of the four preceding courses, or in all of them. The result of the examination will be determined by the aggregate number of marks obtained by the several candidates; the numbers affixed to each course denoting the greatest number of marks obtainable in that course.

No fellow-commoner can be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No pensioner shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship who shall not have remained at one of the Royal Schools to which the Scholarships are attached till an entrance examination in Trinity College, in the month of October next preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships.

No *scion* shall be admitted as a candidate, who shall not have remained at such Royal School till the *scionship* entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships, at which he may be a candidate.

No student who shall have attained 20 years of age shall be permitted to become a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No student shall be elected a Royal Scholar unless he shall have, previously to the examination produced to the Secretary of the Commissioners a certificate signed by the Master of the Royal School from which he shall have entered Trinity College, certifying that such candidate is duly qualified according to the above-stated rules, such certificate to be handed by the candidate to the Examiners.

The candidates from all the schools shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without distinction of schools; the Commissioners reserving to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more Scholarships, if sufficient merit has not been shown.

In cases of equality of merit, in all other respects, the poverty of a candidate will be taken into consideration. A student who has once been a candidate cannot be eligible on a subsequent occasion.

A Royal Scholarship becomes forfeited by the holder of it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or *rustication*; failing to proceed regularly with his class; or failing to obtain in any year either one honour of the first rank, or two honours of the second rank.

The election itself to one of these Scholarships is reckoned as equivalent to one honour of the second rank; a University Moderatorship, a University Scholarship, the Berkeley Gold Medal, the Lloyd Exhibition, the Wray Prize, success in the first Indian Civil Service (competitive) examination, or at the Woolwich entrance examination, as equivalent to a University honour of the first rank, and obtaining a *respondancy*, or success at any of the subsequent Indian Civil Service examinations as equivalent to a University honour of the second rank.

The exhibitions become due half-yearly, *viz.*, on the 1st of May and on the 1st of November. Payments will be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honour of the second rank. A half-yearly payment, held over in May, will be made in November, provided an honour has been obtained in the meantime; and payment for the entire year will be made in November to such students as had not qualified for the May half-year's payment, and shall have then fulfilled all the requisites for the entire year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding minor Scholarships, and where Scholarships for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such students for an increase of their stipend.

The names of the Royal Scholars are placed on the College books, immediately after the names of the University scholars, without, however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

MIDDLETON SCHOOL.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" will grant annually two prizes, one of 30*l.* and one of 20*l.*, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal Schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Middleton School; and having been examined along with and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal Scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiners as deserving candidates.

(signed) *William Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,*
Secretary to "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

8, Clare-street, November 1872.

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of
Education in Ireland, for the Year 1872-3.

(Presented pursuant to act of Parliament.)

Drawn by the Clerk of Committees, M. H. Prentiss,
11 July 1873.

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